

DR. RANKIN HOME
Ripley, Brown County, Ohio

Survey No. O-630 ✓

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Cincinnati, Ohio

Historic American Buildings Survey
Charles R. Strong, District Officer
3700 Carew Tower, Cincinnati, Ohio

DR. RANKIN HOME
Ripley, Brown County, Ohio

OWNER: Al. Hatfield, Ripley, Ohio, present owner and occupant.

DATE OF ERECTION: 1810-15

ARCHITECT : None

PRESENT CONDITION: Fair. Original wood siding on east elevation has been replaced by galvanized iron facing. Slight changes have often been made as time went on, so that the original details have been considerably altered. The transom bar and door are the only original portions of a once fine entrance. From markings on the wall and the presence of nailing blocks it appears that the doorway was probably flanked by a pair of pilasters on each side. It seems that there was no porch originally. Repairs have jumbled the details, but the originals are discernible. In rooms E, F. G and H, the trim is now made up mostly of plain, flat boards.

MATERIALS OF CONSTRUCTION: Foundation of field stone. Ash floors, tongue and groove, 4" to 7" random widths. Poplar trim. Exterior and interior walls of brick except east addition where frame is used. Present roof is tin.

OTHER EXISTING RECORDS: The Ohio State Historical Society has included moving pictures of this home in an educational film for school children of this state.

ADDITIONAL DATA: The present occupant is the first-hand source for information about this home, the first station of the "Underground Railroad", made universally famous by its connection with the anti-slavist, Dr. Rankin, and known as the house in which Eliza of the story "Uncle Tom's Cabin" took refuge after crossing the Ohio on the ice.

Compiled by Eugene F. Schrand
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3/10/37 - me